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May 25, 2004

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

**TO:** Examiner Jori R. SCHIFFMAN  
Art Unit 3679  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA

**FAX NUMBER:** 703-872-9306

**FROM:** Guy D. Yale

**NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED (including this cover page)** 24

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Thomas J. Menard  
Benjamin Y. Agress  
Thomas A. Hatfield  
Diane F. Covello

**CONFIRMATION COPY TO FOLLOW**  YES  NO

**Re:** United States Patent Application No. 09/923,288  
**Title:** Deck Screws Suitable For Use  
                  With Composite Lumber  
**Inventor(s):** Hubert T. McGovern  
**Our (Your) Ref:**

Please see the following Transmittal Letter and Response To Office Action.

It would be greatly appreciated if the U.S. Patent Office would confirm receipt.

Thanking you in advance.

OF COUNSEL  
James E. Alix

Richard H. Berneike  
(1932-2004)

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AYR fax 10-03

MAY 25 2004

Atty. Docket: OMG/129/US

In re patent application of first named inventor: Hubert T. McGovern

**OFFICIAL**

Application No.: 09/923,288

Examiner:

Jori SCHIFFMAN

Filing Date: August 6, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3679

For: DECK SCREWS SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COMPOSITE LUMBER

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Examiner Jori Schiffman, Art Unit 3679

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir, enclosed herewith is (are):

- Response to Office Action
- return postcard

It is hereby petitioned that any required extension of time be granted for filing the enclosed papers. An extension of 0 month(s) having a fee of \$0 appears required.

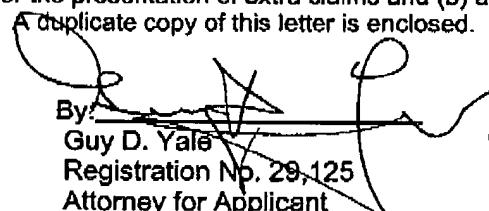
If checked, claims are being amended.

	No. of claims remaining after amendment	Highest no. of claims previously paid for	no. extra	claim fee	subtotal
Total				\$	\$0.00
Independent				\$	\$0.00
Total claim fees					\$ 0.00

If checked, a check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 16-2563 of Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP.

The Commissioner is hereby requested and authorized to charge Deposit Account 16-2563 of Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP for any required extension fee and for any other fee, not enclosed herewith, due for any reason during the pendency of this application or in connection with the accompanying document, including (a) any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims and (b) any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Date: 5-25-2004  
 Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP  
 750 Main Street- Suite 1400  
 Hartford, CT 06103-2721  
 (860) 527-9211  
 TAH/GDY/db

By:   
 Guy D. Yale  
 Registration No. 29,125  
 Attorney for Applicant

The above signatory certifies that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted on the date given above to Examiner Jori R. SCHIFFMAN at the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 703-872-9306).

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Attorney Docket No.: OMG/129/US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**In re patent application of  
Hubert T. McGovern, et al

MAY 25 2004

Serial No.: 09/923,288

Examiner: Jori Schiffman

Filing Date: August 6, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3679

For: DECK SCREWS SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COMPOSITE LUMBER

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office Action, dated May 6, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims, are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.